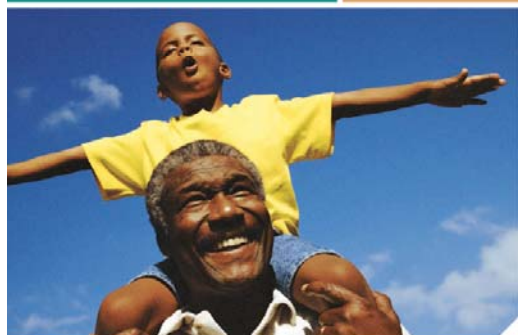




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science in ACTION

BUILDING A SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATION FOR SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL DECISIONS



HUMAN HEALTH RESEARCH PROGRAM

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HUMAN HEALTH RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT FIVE YEARS OF PROGRESS

Issue:

Since its formation in 1970, EPA has made great progress in making the environment cleaner and safer. However, today's environmental issues are much more complicated than those of 20 to 30 years ago. More than ever, there is a need to look to the future, anticipate potential threats to human health and establish scientifically defensible approaches for addressing them.

Science Objective:

EPA's Human Health Research Program (HHRP) in the Office of Research and Development is building a strong foundation for risk assessment by improving understanding of exposure to environmental contaminants and their potential health effects. Human health research addresses high-priority research gaps articulated by EPA's regulatory programs and regional offices.

The recently released *Human Health Research Contributions Report* summarizes the critical research HHRP scientists conducted over the past five years to protect public health. The report highlights the program's key accomplishments which have advanced our risk assessment capabilities in four main areas:

- Biological (mechanistic) research
- Cumulative risk research
- Susceptible subpopulation research
- Tools for evaluating risk management decisions

Application and Impact:

The research program has made significant contributions to a number of problem-driven research areas and contributed to a more systematic understanding of the physical and biological processes that underlie how humans can be affected by environmental stressors.

We have developed broadly applicable research tools for analyzing and using information in science-based decision making, and developed methods, models, and data used by risk assessors and managers to improve the risk assessment process.

The Human Health Research Contributions Report, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC, EPA/600/R-07/011, 2007.

To view the report on the Web, visit the HHRP Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/hhrp>.

For print copies, contact the National Service Center for Environmental Publications, 1-800-490-9198.

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